

## **COMMUNITY BRIEFING**

## **Westminster Police Department**

8200 Westminster Blvd., Westminster CA 92683

http://www.westminster-ca.gov/depts/police/default.asp

Andrew E. Hall, Chief of Police

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### Words from Chief Hall



Welcome to the *Community Briefing* where we highlight the people and programs of the Westminster Police Department. You will notice we have tried to include photographs of our employees wherever possible and included several items that describe the fine work they do. This is because we believe our employees are the organization's greatest asset and what make our programs and policing efforts so successful.

I hope you will find this edition of the *Community Briefing* enjoyable. As always, your comments and feedback are welcome, and we look forward to hearing from you.



# Federal Agency in the Mix



Following one of the primary directives of Secretary Michael Chertoff from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, agents from the **Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)** will now be assigned parttime to the WPD Detectives Bureau.

Detective Lieutenant Derek Marsh explains that ICE agents will be working closely with WPD Detectives to investigate gangs and any criminal enterprises in which they are participating. These federal agencies



are investigating gang members at the local level for either interstate or international connections to criminal conspiracies that stretch beyond our jurisdiction.

WPD has previously worked with ICE in a number of criminal investigations. However, this developing partnership is partially the result of the WPD's experience with the federal agency through the **Orange County Human Trafficking Task Force (OCHTTF)**. Headed by Lieutenant Marsh, OCHTTF is a multi-agency collaboration of local, state, federal, and non-governmental organizations working towards the protection of trafficking victims, the prevention of human trafficking through community education outreach efforts, and the prosecution of those criminals responsible for trafficking in humans.

# You Drink & Drive. You Lose.

The 2005 "You Drink & Drive. You Lose" national enforcement crackdown takes place coast to coast from August 19 through September 5. This impaired-driving prevention campaign was complemented by \$13.9 million in targeted television and radio advertising.

To kick off the campaign, the WPD and the Westminster California Highway Patrol (CHP) conducted a DUI checkpoint on August 19, 2005.



Along with other law enforcement agencies throughout the nation, the WPD is dedicated to keeping impaired drivers off our roads and keeping our families safe.

### Was Mayor Pro Tem Russell Paris arrested by West County SWAT Team? Full story on page 4-5 "Safety Day"



SWAT team weapons were not really aimed at Mayor Pro Tem!

# Citizen Volunteer in Police Service Working with your police department

Since February 1992, citizen volunteers have offered their time and skills to the Westminster Police Depart-

ment without monetary benefits. Our volunteers perform various tasks, allowing officers and civilian personnel to focus on policing and enforcement. Due to growing public interest, the WPD is expanding this valuable volunteer program.



#### WHY VOLUNTEER IN LAW ENFORCEMENT?

Law enforcement agencies often strive to meet public safety challenges with limited resources. Since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, most agencies have



needed even more resources for homeland security efforts. Volunteers can help fill critical gaps in order to free officers to focus on these and other priorities.

## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF BEING A WPD POLICE VOLUNTEER?

Citizens who volunteer to help law enforcement gain in many ways. They will:

- Help make their communities, their cities, and their country safer from crime and terrorism
- Gain insights into the law enforcement system
- Have an opportunity to improve the quality of their local law enforcement services



#### WHO CAN VOLUNTEER?

Citizens of almost any age and background can volunteer to help out. Even youth can volunteer!

#### WHAT DO VOLUNTEERS DO AT WPD?

There are many ways a volunteer can assist the WPD:

- Type reports, enter data, and complete office tasks
- Conduct research and compile crime data for specific area problems
- Staff community policing substations
- Staff a department booth and distribute information at community events
- Provide bike patrols in community parks
- Provide traffic/crowd control
- Provide home safety check for vacationing residents
- Provide short-term care of juveniles in protective custody
- Participate in Neighborhood Watch



## For more information on becoming a volunteer, contact our Volunteer Coordinators:



Lieutenant Bill Lewis 714-898-3315, ext. 353 billl@ewpd.org

Sergeant Tom Richard 714-898-3315, ext. 856 thomasr@ewpd.org





## Join WPD as a Communications Dispatcher

\$3,491-\$5,085 per month + 7% City-Paid PERS

#### THE IDEAL CANDIDATE

- Comfortable talking to the public
- React quickly, efficiently, and calmly in emergency situations
- Ability to speak and write in a clear and concise manner
- Accurate listening and comprehension skills
- Multi-task oriented
- Elicit information from persons in varied states of mind
- Motivated and detail oriented, with a strong work ethic
- Learn and utilize police codes
- Demonstrated computer entry skills

Qualified applicants are encouraged to apply for available openings. All applicants must **type 35 w.p.m. net**, pass all testing phases (polygraph, medical examination, drug screen) and a thorough background investigation prior to final consideration.

Benefits include, but are not limited to:

- Paid medical upon retirement;
- \$899.50 per month for health benefits (unused balance is reimbursed annually to the employee);
- 3/12 work schedule; and
- Employee credit union- deferred compensation plan.

We are accepting applications through September 2005 for testing scheduled for early October 2005. Applications received after September 30, 2005,

tions received after September 30, 2005, will be included in the next testing process.

For further information, please contact **Recruitment Officer Cord Vandergrift** at (714) 898-3315, ext. 395 or via e-mail at <a href="mailto:cordv@ci.westminster.ca.us">cordv@ci.westminster.ca.us</a>.



### **Brochure Racks** in Front Lobby

What is one of the easiest ways to avoid becoming a crime victim? Arm yourself with knowledge!



This is why the WPD has compiled a collection of brochures, pamphlets,

booklets, and guides on various crime topics. We are determined to distribute these materials free of **charge** to the public.

Our display racks are located in the police department front lobby.

They contain up-to-date informational brochures and pamphlets on topics such as domestic abuse, child



abuse, identity theft, fraud, and many more. Most resources are available in English, Spanish and Vietnamese.



### 211 Help Starts Here

Operated by Info Link of Orange County, 2-1-1 is a free, 3-digit telephone number that enables callers to reach local community Information and Referral Services. (Note: 2-1-1 is not yet available on a cellular phone.)

#### Call **2-1-1** for information on:

- Where to go for temporary shelter
- Help for substance abuse problems
- Help for persons with disabili-
- Assistance with care for elderly parents/relatives
- Employment resources
- Assistance for meal provisions
- Providers of free or low-cost health care
- And much more...

**2-1-1** is available 24-hours a day, 7

days a week. It is confidential and provides multilincapabilities. gual



Direct number: 1-888-600-4357

Web site: www.211oc.org.

## Note from the Editor: We want your feedback

Have you enjoyed reading the quarterly Community Briefing? Is it informative? Do you find the articles boring or interesting? Are



there enough pictures? What else do you want to read or see in upcoming issues?

The format and the content of this newsletter are designed to keep you, our readers, informed of WPD happenings. At the same time, we hope to give you useful crime tips. Have we accomplished these goals?



Let us know... we are listening! Send any and all comments to Julia Jim at the Office of Research Planning. and Julia can be

reached at 714-898-3315, ext. 460, or juliaj@ewpd.org.

## **WPD Community** Involvement **Beyond Policing**

"Mayor's Ball" 2005 Sponsorship

Each year, the Westminster Police Officer Association (WPOA) supports the City through sponsorship of the Mayor's Ball. This year, the WPOA pledged \$3,000.

As a token of appreciation, Mayor Rice and the City Council presented a Commendation to the WPOA on July 27, 2005. Traffic Doug Johnson/ Investigator WPOA Treasurer accepted the certificate on behalf of WPOA.



Left to Right: Councilman Andy Quach, Mayor Pro Tem Russell Paris, Treasurer of the Rose Center Foundation Shirl Stewart, WPOA Representative Doug Johnson, Mayor Margie Rice, Councilman Kermit Marsh, Councilman Frank Fry.

#### "Relay for Life" Cancer Walk

The WPD has once again participated in the annual "Relay for Life" Cancer Walk hosted by the American Cancer Society.



This year, over 50 cancer survivors attended the event held on July 30-31, 2005. Sponsored by colleagues and friends, many WPD staff members walked in support of cancer survival and cancer research. Event chair/organizer Of-

ficer Al Brackett proudly reports "WPD that the team, or Station 47 Team" (sponsored by the Westminster Police Officer



Association), has raised over \$70,000 for the American Cancer Society to conduct research in California.



# "HOOPS" Local Intramural Basketball League

Created in 2003, the WPOA HOOPS Basketball Program was designed to provide kids with an



absolutely *free* basketball program. All the HOOPS coaches are police officers.

Any Westminster youth between the ages of 11-13 can participate. Due to limited space, only the first 50 boys and girls who signed up can participate each year. Other interested kids are placed on a waiting list.

Uniforms (shirts and shorts) are purchased by the WPOA and provided to HOOPS players free of charge. Additionally, Participation Medals and Special Recognition Trophies are provided to players each season.



HOOPS games take place on Wednesday evenings during the 6-week season (April – June). All games are played at the Westminster Boys and Girls Club (B&G Club). At the end of each season, there is an All Star Night. During this event, there are skills competition, three point contest, and a dunk competition (on a 7' hoop).

There are two purposes for the All-Star night event. First and fore-most, it provides the kids with a night all their own which allows them to show their "stuff." Second, the proceeds from the event go to the B&G Club for allowing HOOPS free access to their gym for the season. To date, the HOOPS program has raised nearly \$5,000 for the B&G Club,

and provided free organized Basketball to over 150 local kids.

Flyers about HOOPS are sent out through the local schools and the B&G Club. The next season

should begin sometime in April 2006. If you want more information, contact HOOPS Coordinator



**Sergeant Dan Schoonmaker** at 714-898-3315, ext. 819 or dans@ewpd.org.

"Westminster Boys & Girls Club Golf Tournament" Fundraiser



Representing the Westminster Police Officer Association (WPOA), Lieutenant Bill Lewis, Sergeant Tom Richard, Officer Cord Vandergrift, and Officer Darin Upstill braved the blazing sun and "teed-off" at the SeaCliff County Club for the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Westminster Boys & Girls Club Golf Tournament on August 8, 2005.

This year, the event raised over \$60,000 for our local Boys & Girls Club, including a WPOA sponsorship of \$1,100 and two "Ride-Alongs with the Police Chief" auctioned off at \$700 each!

Fun Fact. Sergeant Tom Richard now has bragging rights after winning the "Long Drive Contest" at 315 yards, beating Officer Vandergrift by one single yard!

### Missed our last issue?

You can now read and print past issues of the *Community Briefing* on our Website! Go to <a href="https://www.westminster-ca.gov">www.westminster-ca.gov</a>, click on "Police Department" for a link to the WPD homepage. You can find the newsletters under "Community Outreach."

## Missed Safety Day? Here's a Look at What Happened at Sigler Park



The Annual Public Awareness Safety Day took place on Wednesday, July 27, 2005, at Sigler Park. Children and their families gathered to meet with the City's police officers, firemen, and other safety staff.





Many took the opportunity to license their bicycles, and parents had their children fingerprinted by the Westminster Explorers. Information brochures were also given out by police staff.



The highlight for everyone was watching the "hostage rescue" demonstration. West County

**SWAT Team** members flew in by helicopter, showed off their skills, and saved the day! Our very own **Mayor Pro Tem Russell Paris** even volunteered to take part in the demonstration, posing as a "bad guy" surrendering to the SWAT Team (*see picture on front page*)!





Some people got a chance to get up close and personal with **SWAT Team** members (represented by police officers from Westminster, Los Alamitos and Cypress; paramedics from the Orange County Fire Authority; Crisis Negotiators; and Tactical Dispatchers.)





Front Counter Hours 7:00am – 7:00pm, Every Day

**Phone Number** 

714-898-3315, extensions 371, 372, 373, 374, or 375

### Access 22 States' Sex Offender Registries Online

The U.S. Department of Justice announces the activation of its *National Sex Offender Public Registry (NSOPR) Web site*, which provides real-time access to public sex offender data nation-wide with a single Internet search. The site allows parents and concerned citizens to search the 22 existing public state and territory sex offender registries. **Access information at:** 



http://www.nsopr.gov

For more information about Megan's Law and the sex offender database at the WPD. contact

**Reserve Officer Gary Hooper** at (714) 898-3315, ext. 348.

#### Crime Prevention Tip from WPD

WHAT BURGLARS LOOK FOR WHEN CHOOSING A HOUSE TO BREAK INTO

- Corner houses
- No cars in the driveway
- Houses with easy exits
- No one answering doorbells
- Easy points of entry (open or unlocked windows and sliding doors)

To prevent being targeted by burglars, make your house appear as if someone is home! Leave a car in the driveway when possible. Use lights at night. Leave a radio or TV on in the house to make noise. Most importantly, get to know your neighbors and be aware of your surroundings.

Report all suspicious activities to WPD (i.e., strange people driving slowly around your neighborhood; persons ringing doorbells and claiming to be at a wrong address) and let us find out if these are burglary attempts! Be safe!

# Internet Safety for Teens & Parents

During the course of investigating several sexual assault cases, the website "Myspace.com" came to the attention of WPD Detectives. "Myspace.com" allows registered users to post a personalized profile (includes photos, text and/or video clips) on the web page. Many

people, including younger teens, use the website as a means of expressing themselves and



meeting new, like-minded persons.

Used properly, "Myspace.com" provides a fun environment to communicate with individuals from all over the world. Unfortunately, several Orange County law enforcement agencies have discovered a small number of "Myspace.com" members who use the website to facilitate meetings in order to commit sexual assaults on both adults and minors.



These crimes are perpetrated by criminals and are in no way a reflec-

tion of "Myspace.com" management. In fact, "Myspace.com" management has expressed a sincere interest in assisting investigative efforts, and they have been very cooperative with law enforcement agencies.

WPD Crimes Against Persons Unit is providing this information to its citizens to make them aware of potential issues that may exist with this new Internet trend. We hope this information proves use-

ful in protecting you and your families. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact **Detective Alan Iwashita** 



at 714-898-3315, ext. 306 or alani@ci.westminster.ca.us.

# Special Awards and Recognition

## Citizen Heroes Above and Beyond Award

On June 2, 2005, a driver lost control of her car and crashed into a pole on Beach Blvd. The car spilled fuel and caught fire, leaving the trapped driver in danger. The three courageous passers-by placed their own lives at risk and rescued the driver from the burning wreckage and imminent death.

On July 27, 2005, Chief Hall presented **John Garcia**, **Donald Hoglan**, and **Arturo Lopez** with special trophies as part of the *WPD* "Above and Beyond Award."



From Left to Right: Chief Hall, Donald Hoglan, Mother of Arturo Lopez, John Garcia, and Mayor Rice.

In addition, these three individuals received Resolutions of Commendation from Mayor Margie Rice for their bravery and decisive action that saved the life of a stranger in danger.

Congratulations to all... you embody the true meaning of the word 'Hero'!

#### College Hospital Costa Mesa & College Health Enterprises Above and Beyond Award

College Hospital Costa Mesa & College Health Enterprises received an "Above and Beyond Award" trophy from Chief Hall on July 27, 2005, for their generosity and commitment to excellence in public safety and service to the community.

In carrying out their organizational mission, College Hospital Costa Mesa underwrites and facilitates the training of law enforcement officers throughout Orange County, ensuring officers are equipped with state-of-the-art knowledge, techniques and resources to better serve their communities.



Representatives from College Hospital Costa Mesa and College Health Enterprises (left) accept the resolution of commendation and award trophy from the Mayor, City Council and Chief Hall.

All WPD officers received advanced training on better ways to serve the mentally ill and their families, and to reduce the risk of injury to both law enforcement officers and those in mental health crisis whom they contact. Specific topics included suicide prevention, types of mental illness, intervention strategies and officer safety.

Thank you, College Hospital, for helping us protect and serve Westminster!

# Medal of Commendation for Students

Medals of Commendation are awarded annually to students of the Westminster School District. Selected by teachers and staff from

their own schools, winning students receive the medal from WPD officials during graduation ceremonies.



Criteria for receiving the medal include: hard work, positive spirit, willingness to help others, positive role model, well behaved, and current on all assignments.



Below are names of 2004-2005 school year's winning students:

Anderson Elementary
Cuong Nguyen & Johnny Castro
Clegg Elementary
Kevin Vo & Sarah Dias
DeMille Elementary
Fernando Castaneda & Kelsey

Bjergo **Eastwood Elementary** Myles Mendoza & Alysha Nguyen

Finley Elementary
Cinthia Hernandez & Rogelio
Sanchez

Fryberger Elementary
Andrew Nguyen & Sarah Yoo
Hayden Elementary
Heidi Dinh & Kevin Nguyen
Johnson Middle School
Laura Medina & Ian McGinnis

Meairs Elementary
Joselyn Jimenez & Donovan
Huynh

Schmitt Elementary
Tin Vu & Roselyn Lariz
Schroeder Elementary
Ashley Bratcher & Jeff Rime
Sequoia Elementary
Gloria Dockham & Chris Nguyen
Stacey Middle School
Branden Hale & Beth Willson

Warner Middle School Catherine Galicia & Ralph Hoang Webber Elementary

Jacob Vargas & Jonathan Morales Willmore Elementary

Courtney Quinata & Tommy Nguyen

### Retirement

After 17 years as **Senior Animal Control Officer, Susan Jenulis** retired on August 18, 2005.

Susan came to Westminster after

working at the Orange County Animal Control. She possesses an amazing ability to defuse hostile situations between men and



animals. Over the years, Susan has come to the rescue of many police officers when they were confronted by angry dogs and cats. She can "sweet-talk" an aggressive pit bull into rolling over to have its tummy rubbed! A true animal lover, Susan was never afraid to get down and dirty to rescue animals in trouble.

We wish Susan well as she moves to the Tehachapi area with her dogs. Good luck Susan, you will be missed!



A Farewell Potluck was thrown in Susan's honor at the police department.

## Officer of the Month May 2005

On May 23, 2005, Officer Ryan Reyes was patrolling at the Westminster Mall when he overheard a mall security radio transmission about an employee who had just collapsed. He immediately responded to the scene where a large group of bystanders had gathered. Without hesitation, Officer Reyes began CPR and was soon assisted by a Mall Security Officer.



Officer Ryan Reyes

The victim, who had a history of heart attacks, began breathing on his own. Unfortunately, he soon stopped breathing again. Officer Reyes continued his CPR efforts until medical personnel arrived.

Quick police response and action saved the man's life. Thanks to Officer Reyes' efforts, the victim survived this ordeal. Good job, Officer Reyes. We salute you!

## Quality Customer Service Award

#### Police Dispatcher Sommer Fox

A female with a severe speech impediment repeatedly called 9-1-1 using her cell phone. But, she



would hang up before dispatchers could obtain any information. Knowing how important it is to keep the caller on the phone, Police Dispatcher Sommer Fox tried every trick she has learned over the years. Finally, something worked during the third call!

Dispatcher Fox asked the caller to say "OK" when a correct number of the address came up while she went through numbers 0 to 10 slowly, repeating as needed. Dispatcher Fox was able to obtain a cell phone number using the same method. Once there was enough information, police officers were able to respond and assist the caller. Thank you, Dispatcher Fox, for going above and beyond to assist those in need!

#### Police Sergeant Dwight Moore

While driving in his patrol car, Sergeant

Dwight Moore noticed a handicapped man



who had fallen out of his wheel-chair and was lying on the street. He immediately stopped and assisted the man back into his chair. Sergeant Moore then pushed the man to a nearby bus stop, which was the man's destination. A citizen who had observed the entire event called to let us know how impressed he was with Sergeant Moore's action.

Thank you, Sergeant Moore, for always rendering immediate aid to those in need!

## Fact or Myth?

Frequently Asked Questions

Let this column help separate facts and myths about police work! Submit your questions to admin@ewpd.org.

Myth. Police officers profile drivers in "souped up" cars... they always get stopped and ticketed.

Fact. The police do not look for a certain make or model of cars. If a car is speeding, it does not matter what kind of car it is. A speeder is a speeder and usually gets a ticket. Any violation is citable; no profiling of a certain type of vehicle or driver is

Myth. If you get a speeding ticket

done or tolerated at WPD.



when other cars around you are going just as fast, you can challenge the ticket in court. The police will lose because their radar can't pick out a car

in the middle of a pack and determine its speed.

Fact. If a driver is exceeding the speed limit, it is a violation. "Going with the flow of traffic" does not make it legal. Currently officers are using a speed measuring device known as a LIDAR. The old RADAR is slowly becoming obsolete. The LIDAR utilizes laser technology and is target specific. This means it can pick up a single vehicle in a group of vehicles. Officers try and pick out the visibly faster moving vehicle in the group or even the lead vehicle if all vehicles appear to be going the same speed.

## **OFFICER TRAINING:**Mental Health Response

The WPD became the first agency in Orange County to provide department-wide training on the topics of mental illness and "suicide by cop" (a method some mentally

ill persons use to commit suicide).



The 3-day

event (June 14-17, 2005) gave our officers the latest, state-of-the-art training to assist them in identifying situations involving mental illness and how to communicate and intervene effectively, so as to minimize the chances of violence and maximize the chances that the person with the mental illness will receive proper care.

## **OFFICER TRAINING: CSI ~ Fingerprinting**

During the month of August, ninety (90) WPD officers completed a class to improve their skills in processing most crime scenes for fingerprint evidence. This is the first of four planned training classes designed for officers which emphasize the forensic sciences.



Instructed by our own Forensic Services Unit (FSU) personnel, this class taught officers the "how, why and when" to process fingerprint evidence. Also, it detailed some of the capabilities of FSU, so officers can make informed decisions about when to request the CSI unit's response.

#### OFFICER TRAINING: Homeland Security Tabletop Exercise

Using federal funding from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the Cities of Westminster, Garden Grove, and La Palma teamed together on August 16,

2005 to participate in a *Terrorism High Explosive Tabletop Exercise*. This exercise was designed to test the Cities' plans, policies and procedures for preventing, responding to, and recovering from a terrorist weapon of mass destruction attack.

This 5-hour, discussion-based exercise involved approximately 120

people from the Cities' departments that typically provide public safety, as well as each city's **Emergency Operations Center** 



staff. It was a great opportunity for the participating cities to test their interoperability capabilities when working in a Unified Command structure with other organizations.

# Police Department Division News

#### Research & Planning

Reporting directly to the Chief of Police, the Office of Research & Planning (R&P) is primarily responsible for conducting social science based research and evaluating police programs.

What does that mean? Simply put, these highly educated and trained staff members use their research skills to create a method to monitor all police programs.



Why is that important? Through objective assessment, R&P staff can obtain useful and reliable data to determine if police programs are indeed helping the community. All information collected is then shared directly with the Chief of Police and other police administra-

tors, allowing them to make informed decisions to continue promising programs, as well as to promptly end ineffective ones.

What else does R&P do? R&P staff is also responsible for a number of other assignments. Here are just a few of their projects:

- Public Opinion Surveys
- Grant Writing
- Legislative Monitoring
- Publications (including this newsletter!)
- Community Outreach

One of the biggest projects R&P staff has worked on last year was sending out **10,000** surveys to randomly selected addresses in the City. Were you among the selected ones?

### Traffic Bureau

In this issue, we have asked **Traffic Special Services Clerk Doreen van Lith** to explain what a violation of "fire lane" or "fire access" is and why we enforce it.

#### **Your Questions**

Q: "What is Fire Lane/Fire Access? And what's the big deal with parking there for just a short time?"



A: On an almost daily basis at the Traffic Division, people ask questions about their parking tickets for a "fire lane" or "fire access" violation. We hear many reasons for why people park in the fire access and fire lanes:

- ✓ 'Officer, the curb wasn't red and it didn't say fire lane.'
- ✓ 'There wasn't anywhere else
  to park. It was only a few
  minutes by the hedges.'
- ✓ 'I didn't see a sign that said I can't park there.'

✓ 'But Officer, it was just a few minutes and right next to the first parking stall.'

As compelling as some reasons may sound, the law states that <u>if it</u>

is not a marked parking stall, it is not a parking space. There are actually two violation codes which address fire lane and fire access parking.



In brief, the **California Vehicle Code (CVC) 22500.1** reads: "A vehicle shall not park, stop or stand in a <u>designated</u> fire lane." A designation is either indicated by

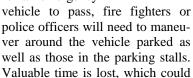


1) a sign posted immediately next to, and visible from, the designated place; 2) the lane is marked in red "FIRE LANE"; or 3)

by a red curb or red paint on the edge of the roadway upon which is marked "FIRE LANE."

The Westminster Municipal Code 10.86.010 extends the coverage of the CVC code to public parking lots. In addition, it specifically states that a parked vehicle shall not block or obstruct "an established or designated exit driveway, alleyway, or access road... so as to impede the movement of any emergency vehicle or emergency equipment in the event of fire, earthquake or other emergency."

If you park in an area designated for an emergency





have serious consequences for someone's property or life.

We hope you better understand why these codes are in place and why they are enforced.

To dispute a parking ticket issued in Westminster, there is an Admin-

istrative Review Form (available at the Police Department) which can be filled out within 21 days of the citation. Only by filling out this form will your argument be addressed. A decision will be mailed to you within three weeks of your review request.

If you have more questions, please contact **Traffic Special Services Clerk Doreen van Lith** at 714-898-3315, ext. 339 or **Traffic Control Supervisor John Lupe** at 714-898-3315, ext. 334.

# Behind the Scenes: Meet the Employees Who Work Inside the WPD



When we talk about the Police, most people think of uniformed officers. It is quite easy to forget that these officers are sup-

ported by many civilian staff members. These employees tend to stay inside of the police building and do not have daily interaction with the public. However, their jobs are just as important, and here is our first opportunity to meet with some of these folks.

### Administration

Administration support staff consists of two full-time secretaries, a full-time fiscal specialist and a part-time associate. They are responsible for handling all incoming phone calls, correspondence, scheduling meetings and a variety of other tasks including fiscal duties, personnel, payroll, and worker's compensation.

#### Chief's Secretary Judyth Lance



Judyth is the gateway to the Chief of Police. On a daily basis, she handles all incoming phone calls to Chief Hall, maintains his schedule, processes all correspondence to and from the Chief's office, and safeguards confidential administrative files. Judyth ensures that the Chief has everything he needs to serve WPD and the community!

#### Management Secretary Darlene Cantrell



Darlene holds one of the most important positions in the department... she is in charge of employee payroll and other personnel matters! Darlene processes all relevant paperwork, and she keeps Management informed of the financial status of the department. In addition, she serves as a secretary to our Police Captains and performs various administrative tasks.

#### Fiscal Specialist Teresita Proctor



Teresita is the financial guru of the department. For years, she has been working closely with the Chief and Captains in preparing, maintaining, and balancing the police operational budget. Teresita has major control over financial dealings, and she handles all purchase and reimbursement requests. With over 26 years of service to the WPD, she is truly one of the most valuable behind-the-scene employees!

#### Department Secretary (P/T) Beth Sudyka



Beth came back to work part-time in 1999 after retiring from 23 years of service to Westminster. We are lucky to have her expertise and knowledge to help out with administrative projects. One of her especially noteworthy tasks is to monitor the Officer Down Memorial Website. Beth writes condolence letters on behalf of the WPD and the City (for Chief's signature) to all law enforcement agencies across the United States that have lost officers in the line of duty.



Ask Your Questions jackd@ewpd.org

(714) 898-3315 extension 723

Lt. Jack Davidson

**Question:** "How do you handle close calls when driving?"

(<u>Lt. Davidson</u>: For the last part of this 3-issue response, I will address how to handle **Drunk Driver Ahead**.)

#### DRUNK DRIVER AHEAD

According to the California Department of Motor Vehicles, 50% of all traffic fatality auto collisions are alcohol-related.

How do you spot drunk drivers? An obvious sign is a driver who just cannot stay in his/her lane. Police Officers also look for drivers who erratically speed up and

ers who erratically speed up and slow down, or seem unaware their turn signal or bright lights are on.

So, what's the advice on dealing with these drunk drivers? The best advice here is to *slow down and keep your distance* from the suspected drunk driver. **Do not pass the drunk driver**, because you don't want to have them behind



you. If you can do it safely, use your cellular telephone to report drunk drivers by calling 9-1-1.

Do Not Drink & Drive! Have a Designated Driver!

#### Recent Accomplishments

## Gold Medal Winner: Police and Fire Olympics

Officer Manh Ingwerson has

been participating in the Police and Fire Olympics for numerous years. In the past, he has won gold and silver medals



many times for the "bench press" competition. This year was no exception! Officer Ingwerson came back from the Olympics in Canada with another Gold medal! Congratulations!

# Graduates: Sherman Block Supervisory Leadership Institute

Congratulations! Sergeants Tom Finley and Bill Collins are our most recent graduates from the Sherman Block Supervisory Leadership Institute. For eight consecutive months, these two have attended one week sessions which required them to leave work and their families.



Graduates Sergeant Bill Collins (left) and Sergeant Tom Finley (right)

The program is specifically designed to stimulate personal leadership and ethical decision making. It assists the supervisors in effectively integrating management skills and leadership qualities.

### Police Department Phone Numbers

If you have an emergency, call 9-1-1!



For non-emergency or other business, call (714) 898-3315

General Information	ext. 425
Dispatch	ext. 326
Records Bureau	ext. 371
Traffic Division	ext. 339
Administration	ext. 301

#### E-mail List

If you would like to be on our newsletter e-mail list, please let us know by sen

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Mayor Margie L. Rice Mayor Pro-Tem Russell Paris Councilman Frank Fry Councilman Kermit Marsh Councilman Andy Quach

We want to express our sincere appreciation to the Westminster City Council for their support and commitment to public safety!

**Community Briefing** is a newsletter produced quarterly by the Westminster Police Department. Its main purpose is to share information about the Department with the community we serve.

Further questions or comments regarding the contents of this newsletter should be forwarded to the Research & Planning Unit at (714) 898-3315 ext. 460 or